
Faces of Science: Sara Del Valle

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Modeling infectious disease with mathematics

While growing up, Sara Del Valle watched her parents tend to people suffering from infectious disease.

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Later in life she discovered her love for mathematics, but always in the back of her mind was her desire to help stop the spread of infectious disease.

As a Los Alamos scientist, Sara works with her team to develop mathematical and computer models to study diseases such as smallpox, malaria, AIDS and influenza.

Her end goal is to use social media to track outbreaks so that fewer people die from infectious diseases.

Read more: [Los Alamos using NIH grant to study how social behaviors affect spread of disease »](#)

Del Valle works for DSA-4's Energy and Infrastructure Analysis group.

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